

REMARKS

Support for amended claim 1 can be found in the specification at page 19, lines 16-18, and by the examples. Claims 1, 2 and 12-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by either Helling et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,588,887 ("Helling '887") or Helling et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,534,254 ("Helling '254"). The applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Helling '887 and Helling '254 do not teach the relevant feature of the present invention, that the ratio of oil former and cyan coupler should be low for the claimed couplers. Helling '887 discloses at col. 3, line 63 through col. 4, line 12:

Low-molecular or polymeric phenolic oil formers are preferably used as oil formers for the hydroxyphenyl triazine UV absorbers having formula II, in other words phenolic oil formers and the UV absorber having formula II are conveniently dispersed in the form of a common emulsifier in the casting solution for the layer concerned. The quantities required for all layers together are 50 to 1,500 mg/m², preferably 200 to 700 mg/m² for the UV absorber and 50 to 1,500 mg/m², preferably 100 to 500 mg/m² for the phenolic oil former.

The hydroxyphenyl triazine UV absorber having formula II and the cyan coupler having formula I are preferably dispersed in the form of a common emulsifier in the casting solution for the layer concerned. The quantities required are 50-1,500 mg/m², preferably 200 to 700 mg/m² for the UV absorber and 50-1,500 mg/m², preferably 100-500 mg/m² for the cyan coupler.

There is no specific disclosure of a ratio disclosed in Helling '887. Helling '254, also does not disclose the specific ratio as is required by the applicants' claimed invention.

The ratio demonstrated in Helling '887, Example 1, 6th layer, is 0.46 g oil former (e.g. TCP) 0.46 g cyan coupler (e.g. BG-1) = 1:1 and the ratio demonstrated in Helling '254, Example 1, 6th layer, is 0.40 g oil former (e.g. TCP + dibutyl phthalate) / 0.40 g cyan coupler (e.g. BG-1 + BG-2) = 1:1. The applicants' claimed invention requires the ratio by weight of oil former to cyan coupler is less than 0.8:1 which is not taught nor

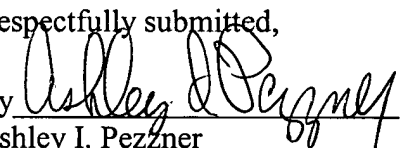
suggested by either Helling '887 or Helling '254. For the above reasons, this rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 03-2775, under Order No. 07244-00139-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Respectfully submitted,

By


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